



PATENT
Application Serial No. 10/608,362
Attorney Ref. No. 023US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent Application of)
Miles et al.) Group Art Unit: 3732
App. Ser. No. 10/608,362)
Filed: June 26, 2003) Examiner: Pedro Philogene
For: SURGICAL ACCESS SYSTEM)
AND RELATED METHODS)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 20, 2006:

Signature: Jay Bell
Printed Name: Jay Bell

RESPONSIVE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir or Madam:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 19, 2005, the shortened statutory for which expired on December 19, 2005, Applicants respectfully request the application be amended as follows: